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LEIOPHYLLUM VERSUS DENDRIUM

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THE small Ericaceous shrubs of eastern America long known as *Leiophyllum* have recently appeared in works emanating from the New York Botanical Garden¹ under the name *Dendrium* Desv. The bibliographic explanation given is

“DENDRIUM Desv. Journ. Bot. (II.) 1: 36. 1813.

[LEIOPHYLLUM Pers. Syn. 1: 477. 1805. Not Ehrh. 1780.]”

From this statement it would look as if there were a generic name, *Leiophyllum* Pers. (1805), which is antedated by a properly published generic name *Leiophyllum* Ehrh. (1780); and, therefore, by the American code Ehrhart's use of the name would seem to make it invalid for later use as a generic name. Examination of the name *Leiophyllum* Ehrh. shows, however, that this is not the case; for Ehrhart's name is not a generic name nor does it have any status in scientific nomenclature. *Leiophyllum* Ehrh. was No. 11 of his “nomina usualia” or monomials published in his *Index Phytophylacii Ehrhartiani*.² These names, as has been so clearly reëmphasized by Dr. John Hendley Barnhart,³ were “not . . . of very much consequence, since they are nothing but an attempt to assign to each plant a name that may be used for it alone, without an accompanying generic one;” or, as Dr. Barnhart renders the words of Oeder, from

¹ Britton & Brown, Ill. Fl. ii. 562 (1897); Small, Fl. Se. U. S. 882 (1903); Small, N. A. Fl. xxix. 38 (1914); etc.

² Ehrh. Beitr. iv. 145–150 (1789).

³ Barnhart, *The so-called Generic Names of Ehrhart's Phytophylacium*, RHODORA, xxii, 180–182 (1920).

whom Ehrhart took his cue, they are names "for common non-botanical conversational use, . . . having no connection or relation to classification, to genus, or to specific relationship, but one for each species, relating to itself alone." Such names are not generic names and have no more status in scientific nomenclature than "Smooth Menziesia" or "Mountain Eubotrys." Again to quote Barnhart's just condemnation of their recognition in botanical nomenclature: "How inexcusable, then, is it for any one to assume that these were generic names without even reading what Ehrhart himself has to say about them." Surely the trivial and wholly unscientific use of *Leiophyllum* by Ehrhart in 1789 (not 1780 as stated by Britton & Brown and by Small)¹ in no wise invalidates the properly published but later generic name *Leiophyllum* for the Ericaceous shrubs.

The valid generic name *Leiophyllum*, however, should not be ascribed to Persoon (1805) as is commonly done; for Persoon, Syn. i. 477 (1805), did not treat it as a genus, but merely as a section of *Ledum*, a fact clearly recognized in Pfeiffer's Nomenclator. As a genus *Leiophyllum* was first published by Hedwig (filius) in 1806, as cited by Pfeiffer, the Index Kewensis and Dalla Torre & Harms. The generic bibliography is as follows:

LEIOPHYLLUM (Pers.) Hedw. fil. Gen. 313 (1806). *Ammyrsine* Pursh, Fl. Am. Sept. 301 (1814). *Dendrium* Desv. Journ. de Bot. iii. (or Sér. 2: i.) 36 (1814). *Fischera* Swartz, Mém. Soc. Nat. Mosc. v. 14 (1817).

The citation for *Dendrium* given by Britton & Brown (and very similarly by Small) is "Desv. Journ. Bot. (II.) 1:36. 1813." Desvaux first issued, with title-page dates 1808 and 1809 respectively, two volumes of "JOURNAL DE BOTANIQUE, rédigé par une Société de Botanistes," with only the two volumes. After an interval he renewed the series as "Journal de Botanique, appliqué à l'agriculture, à la pharmacie, à la médecine et aux arts." The first of this 2nd series in the library of the Gray Herbarium bears a preliminary title-page "Journal de Botanique. Seconde Année. Tome 3^e," followed by the more detailed title-page without volume-number and with the date 1813. The next volume, also dated 1813, bears no volume-number, the imprint at the bottom of the first page giving the date

¹ I can find no evidence except the citations by Britton & Brown and by Small that Ehrhart used the name in 1780. He certainly used it as a monomial in 1789; and the latter date only is given by Pfeiffer, the Index Kewensis and Dalla Torre & Harms.

Juillet 1813. The next volume, with the date 1814, bears, like the first of the new series, the title-page number Tome III and the last volume, also dated 1814, is called Tome IV. The dates of issue given on the title-pages appear to be untrustworthy. Thus, opposite the main title-page of the last of the whole series there appears the "AVIS. Nous avons publié, en 1810, deux Volumes de 384 pages chacun et de 12 gravures, intitulés simplement JOURNAL DE BOTANIQUE, rédigé par une Société de Botanistes." The date, now given as 1810, materially differs from the dates 1808 and 1809 given on the title-pages of these volumes but helps to explain the statement in the following volume: "Seconde Année." Vol. iii. or Sér. 2: i. is dated 1813 and the date Février 1813 appears at the bottoms of pages 49, 65 and 81; Mars 1813 at the bottoms of pages 97, 113 and 129; etc. Nevertheless, European bibliographers apparently have recent information (its source as yet unknown to me) that the part of vol. iii. or Sér. 2: i. containing *Dendrium* (p. 36) and *Loiseleuria* (p. 35) was not issued until 1814. At least, although the first fascicle of Index Kewensis (1893) gives *Dendrium* as published in 1813, in the third fascicle (1894) it appears in the synonymy of *Leiophyllum* as published in 1814; and on a succeeding page *Loiseleuria* is dated as published in 1814. Similarly, Dalla Torre & Harms, whose bibliography is usually accurate, date these two names from 1814. In view of the unfortunate confusion in much of Desvaux's work¹ and his obvious bibliographic carelessness in numbering the volumes of his Journal de Botanique, Alphonse De Candolle's statement in regard to Desvaux's herbarium is illuminating: "Les omissions ou indications fausses de pays et la similitude de certains échantillons avec ceux du Muséum rendent cet herbier fort curieux."—A. DC. Phytogr. 408 (1880).

GRAY HERBARIUM.

NOTES FROM THE HERBARIUM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN—I.

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JUNIPERUS HORIZONTALIS Moench. Almost confined, in Wisconsin, to the shores of Lake Michigan. Known elsewhere in the state only

¹ For example, see *RHODORA*, xvi. 27, 28 (1914).